

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An absorbent article comprising: a topsheet; an absorbent core material, and an acquisition distribution layer between said topsheet and said absorbent core material, wherein said acquisition distribution layer is a three dimensional apertured film having a female side and male side, wherein said acquisition distribution layer defines a void volume space including female side voids and interconnected male side voids, and said interconnected male side voids providing space for unabsorbed fluid to flow over said absorbent core material without contacting said topsheet; said acquisition distribution layer has at least one raised ridge extending towards said topsheet from said female side of said acquisition distribution layer.
2. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 1-24 wherein: said acquisition distribution layer has at least one raised ridge extending towards said topsheet from said female side of said acquisition distribution layer.
3. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 21 wherein: said raised ridge runs in a longitudinal direction of the absorbent article for directing unabsorbed fluid to flow primarily in a desired direction with respect to the absorbent article for reducing side leakage from said absorbent article.
4. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said acquisition distribution layer is a multi-layer film having a first three dimensional apertured film adjacent a second three dimensional apertured film; said second three dimensional apertured film is adjacent to a female side of said first three dimensional apertured film wherein said first three dimensional apertured film has at least one raised ridge; and an enlarged void volume space is created between said second three dimensional apertured film and said first three dimensional apertured film for containing unabsorbed fluid and substantially preventing contact of the fluid with the topsheet.
5. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 1-24 wherein: said acquisition distribution layer is a multi-layer film having a first three dimensional apertured film adjacent a second three dimensional apertured film; said first three dimensional apertured film having said male side and a first female side; said second three dimensional apertured film is adjacent to said first female side and comprising said interconnected male side voids; and an enlarged void volume space is defined by said interconnected male side

voids and said first female side voids for containing unabsorbed fluid and substantially preventing contact of the fluid with the topsheet.

6. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said topsheet is a vacuum formed film layer.

7. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said acquisition distribution layer has a plurality of cells wherein adjacent cells each have a hole that allows insult fluids to be rapidly acquired through the acquisition distribution layer.

8. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 7 wherein: said plurality of cells have a mesh count of between approximately 2 and 25.

9. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 7 wherein: said plurality of cells have a mesh count of between approximately 4 and 15.

10. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 7 wherein: said plurality of cells have a mesh count of approximately 8.

11. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 7 wherein: said cells have a shape selected from a group comprising hexagonal, circular, oval, elliptical, or polygonal.

12. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 7 wherein: said plurality of cells form a cell pattern that is a combination of at least two shapes selected from a group comprising hexagonal, circular, oval, elliptical, or polygonal.

13. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said void volume space is a total void volume space of the acquisition distribution layer, wherein said total void volume space is greater than $500 \text{ cm}^3/\text{m}^2$.

14. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said void volume space is a total void volume space of the acquisition distribution layer, wherein said total void volume space is greater than $750 \text{ cm}^3/\text{m}^2$.

15. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said void volume space is a total void volume space of the acquisition distribution layer, wherein said total void volume space is greater than $1000 \text{ cm}^3/\text{m}^2$.

16. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said void volume space is on the female side of the acquisition distribution layer to facilitate spill-over of unabsorbed fluid.
17. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 16 wherein: said void volume space on said female side is greater than 500 cm³/m².
18. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 16 wherein: said void volume space on said female side is greater than 750 cm³/m².
19. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 16 wherein: said void volume space on said female side is greater than 1000 cm³/m².
20. (Original) The absorbent article according to claim 1 wherein: said void volume space is on the male side of the acquisition distribution layer to facilitate spill under of unabsorbed fluid.
21. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 20 wherein: said void volume space on said male side is greater than 500 cm³/m².
22. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 20 wherein: said void volume space on said male side is greater than 600 cm³/m².
23. (Previously presented) The absorbent article according to claim 20 wherein: said void volume space on said male side is greater than 750 cm³/m².
24. (Currently amended) An absorbent article comprising:
~~a first three dimensional apertured film having a female side and a male side, said first three dimensional apertured film defining first male side voids and first female side voids;~~
~~a second three dimensional apertured film that is adjacent to said female side of said first three dimensional apertured film, said second three dimensional apertured film defining interconnected male side voids and second female side voids;~~
~~an enlarged void volume space comprising said first female side voids and said interconnected male side voids for containing unabsorbed fluid and channeling it to unsaturated regions of an adjacent absorbent core material; and~~

~~said absorbent core material adjacent said male side of said first three dimensional apertured film~~

a topsheet;

an absorbent core material, and

an acquisition distribution layer between said topsheet and said absorbent core material,

wherein said acquisition distribution layer is a three dimensional apertured film having a female side and male side, wherein said acquisition distribution layer defines a void volume space including female side voids and interconnected male side voids, and said interconnected male side voids providing space for unabsorbed fluid to flow over said absorbent core material without contacting said topsheet

wherein said void volume space is a total void volume space of the acquisition distribution layer, wherein said total void volume space is greater than 500 cm³/m².

25. Cancelled.
26. Cancelled
27. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 24 wherein: said total void volume space is greater than 750 cm³/m².
28. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 27-24 wherein: said total void volume space is greater than 1000 cm³/m².
29. Cancelled
30. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 26-24 wherein: the void volume space of said ~~first~~ female side voids is greater than 750 cm³/m².
31. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 26-24 wherein: the volume space of said ~~first~~ female side voids is greater than 1000 cm³/m².
32. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 26-24 wherein: the void volume space of said ~~first~~ female side voids is greater than 1250 cm³/m².
33. Cancelled.

34. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 30 wherein: the void volume space of said ~~first~~ male side voids is greater than 500 cm³/m².

35. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 30 wherein: the volume space of said ~~first~~ male side voids is greater than 600 cm³/m².

36. (Currently amended) The absorbent article according to claim 30 wherein: the void volume space of said ~~first~~ male side voids is greater than 750 cm³/m².

37. (Currently amended) A method of avoiding a wetness sensation of a topsheet in an absorbent article comprising: passing fluid through an apertured acquisition distribution layer to an area proximate a core material; and redirecting unabsorbed fluids to an area of non-saturated core material via void spaces defined by a male side of said acquisition distribution layer material, wherein said step of redirecting unabsorbed fluids includes providing raised ridges that define channels for directing fluids in a desired direction of the apertured acquisition distribution layer.

38. Cancelled

39. (Original) The method according to claim 37 wherein: said step of passing fluid through an apertured acquisition distribution layer comprises passing fluid through a first three dimensional apertured film and second three dimensional apertured film.

40. Cancelled

41. Cancelled